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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Inventor: Kureshy, Fareed
Serial No.: 09/735,402
Filing Date: Dec. 12, 2000
Title: STAGE AND PLATFORM FOR BUILDING A BIOCHIP, AND BIOCHIP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment to the above-identified application.

In The Specification

Please amend as follows:

~~Page 15, line 22, cancel "colorimetric", substitute --luminescent--.~~

~~Page 19, lines 6, cancel "Colorimetric", substitute --Luminescent--.~~

~~Page 19, lines 7, cancel "colorimetric", substitute --luminescent--.~~

~~Page 20, line 18, cancel "colormetric", substitute --luminescent--.~~

~~Page 21, line 5, cancel "colormetric", substitute --luminescent--.~~

Page 24, line 21 (next to last line), please insert before the first sentence beginning on said line

--Although agents which cross-link vis-a-vis covalent bonds are widely used, one of the most popular methods of noncovalent conjugation is to make use of the natural strong binding of avidin for the small molecule biotin.--

Page 35, line 19 cancel both instances of "colormetric", substitute --luminescent-- for each.

Page 40, lines 6, 14, and 21 cancel "colormetric", substitute --luminescent-- for each.

Page 41, line 8, cancel "colormetric", substitute --luminescent--.

REMARKS

Applicant believes that the amendments to the specification do not constitute new matter. As explained below, the amendments rely for support solely on the specification as filed.

Luminescent

At pages 15, 19, 20, 21, 35, 40, and 41, Applicant respectfully requests replacement of the word "colorimetric" with the word "luminescent."

Applicant has erroneously referred to fluorescence and phosphorescence as "colorimetric events." In each instance of the word "colorimetric," the context clearly refers to fluorescence and phosphorescence, which are luminescent events. Luminescent events are commonly defined as emission of radiation as a result of absorption of exciting energy in the form of photons, charged particles, or chemical change. Again, at page 19, lines 6 and 7, Applicant erroneously used the term "colorimetric event" to refer to the disclosure from page 19, line 7 to page 20, line 12, which sets forth methods and literature references for detecting fluorescence, phosphorescence and chemiluminescence, all of which are properly named as luminescent events. Applicant believes that the requested amendments clarify and make more definite that which was already discussed in the specification, and respectfully requests entry of these amendments.

Cross-Linking Agents

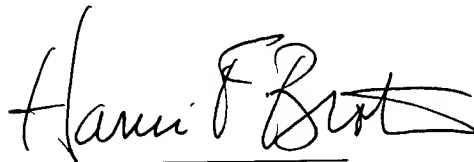
On page 24, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following sentence --Although agents which cross-link vis-a-vis covalent bonds are widely used, one of the most popular methods of noncovalent conjugation is to make use of the natural strong binding of avidin for the small molecule biotin.--

Enablement for streptavidin-biotin noncovalent cross-linking agents in the present invention is found in the specification at page 24, line 21 through page 25, line 4; page 32, lines 18-22; page 34, lines 6-12; page 38, line 14; and on pages 23-25, the disclosure refers to *Bioconjugate Techniques*, Greg T. Hermanson, Academic Press, San Diego, CA, (1996), which includes Chapter 13 devoted to agents for cross-linking which involve covalent as well as noncovalent cross-linking. Applicant believes that the requested amendments clarify and make more definite that which was already discussed in the specification, and respectfully requests entry of these amendments.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this preliminary amendment and subsequent examination. The below-signed attorney's telephone, fax, and email are, respectively (858) 454-2428, (858) 551-0082, and hbrotman@brotmangroup.com.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: September 10, 2001

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